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Attorney Docket No. 22490.00

Customer No. 37833

Confirmation No. 5776

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN THE PATENT APPLICATION OF:

APPLICANT: TIMOTHY J. ARGUELLO

APPL. NO. : 10/660,769

ART UNIT : 1724

FILED

: **SEPTEMBER 12, 2003** 

EXAMINER: SAVAGE, M. O.

FOR

: SYSTEM FOR RECYCLING WASHING MACHINE WATER

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

## **RESPONSE TO ELECTION REQUIREMENT**

Sir:

In the Office action mailed February 28, 2005, the Examiner required an election of species under 35 U.S.C. § 121 prior to an examination on the merits of application. The separate species of the claimed invention as identified by the Examiner are as follows:

Species 1. Figure 1 (Claims 1-9);

Species 2. Figure 2 (Claims 10-20).

LITMAN LAW OFFICES, LTD. P.O. BOX 15035 ARLINGTON, VA 22215 (703) 486-1000 Application No.: 10/660,769

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In compliance with the Examiner's requirement, Applicant provisionally elects with traverse for

further prosecution the embodiment shown in Figure 1 (designated as Species 1). Claims 1-9 are

considered to be readable on the elected species.

Notwithstanding the propriety of the election requirement for examination purposes, Applicant

contends that he should be entitled to a consideration of a reasonable number of related embodiments

falling within the scope of a generic inventive concept. Moreover, it would appear that a search and

examination of the entire application could be accomplished without a serious burden on the Examiner

since the multiple embodiments identified of record would seemingly encompass a common field of

search.

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner withdraw the election requirement, and

issue an action on the merits of all the embodiments presently in the case. Alternatively, should the

Examiner maintain the requirement and make it final, Applicant awaits a complete action on the merits of

the elected subject matter.

Respectfully submitted,

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2